

18 August 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Intelligence briefing of Mr. Truman at Independence,
Missouri, Tuesday, 12 August 1958

On Tuesday morning, August 12 last, after consulting with your office and with the Secretary of State, I called Mr. Truman in Independence, Missouri, and told him that there had been important developments in the Middle East since his briefing on July 30, and that if it was convenient for him, I would be glad to come to Independence that afternoon to bring him up to date on the latest developments. Truman expressed keen appreciation and said he would be very glad to see me.

I reached Mr. Truman's office at Independence about 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday (the day before your address to the United Nations General Assembly) and spent somewhat over an hour with him. I gave him a full outline of developments over the preceding two weeks, including Khrushchev's trip to Peiping, the diplomatic correspondence with regard to a summit and then a General Assembly meeting, the situation in Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Africa and Iran. In conclusion, I dealt briefly with the Taiwan Straits and Chinat-Chicom developments.

Mr. Truman followed with keen attention, asked a series of questions showing that he was carefully following developments and stressed his own negative reaction to the Soviets predilection for big power settlement of small power problems.

I told Mr. Truman that I had a draft of the address which you planned to deliver the next morning before the UN if he wished to glance over it. Mr. Truman thanked me but said that he preferred to listen to the speech when it was delivered. However, he welcomed my suggestion that I give him a general outline of your address which I did, with emphasis on the economic proposals.

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I made it clear that it was your personal wish that Mr. Truman be kept up to date as he might desire with regard to the important international developments. Mr. Truman expressed keen appreciation and general agreement with the views you were presenting to the UN. At the end of the briefing he emphasized his desire to be as cooperative and helpful as "a Missouri mule" could be.

Attached for your files is a more detailed memorandum of the briefing prepared by [REDACTED] my associate, who accompanied me.

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SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosure

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